Treating of dearness allowance as pay for retirement benefits

3193. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARDWAJ:
DR. H. P. SHARMA:
SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to treat the entire dearness allowance and ad hoc dearness allowance sanctioned upto index level of 568 points as dearness pay for the purpose of retirement benefits of defence service officers and personnel retiring after March 31, 1985; and

(b) whether it is a fact that such a proposal was announced by the Finance Minister as a part of the Government employees including the defence personnel and if so, whether such a decision as referred to in part (a) above has also been taken in respect of other Government employees; if not, what are the reasons for the delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The decision was announced by the Finance Minister in his speech introducing the budget proposals for 1985-86 in the Parliament and covers the Central Government employees, including defence personnel, retiring on or after 31-3-1985. Necessary Government orders have since been issued.

Criticism of US and UK policy on South Africa by India

3194. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at the opening of the UN General Assembly's discussions of Namibia on November 18-19, 1985, India had hit out at the US and UK attitude on South Africa, decrying their constructive action policy as a pathetic euphemism for active collaboration with and patronage of the barbarous and illegal Pretoria regime; and

(b) if so, what was the British and US reaction thereto and the consensus of the General Assembly thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) The Government believes that the policy of "constructive engagment" with South Africa has only served to encourage the minority regime's defiance of the will of the international community with regard to its illegal occupation of Namibia and its policy of apartheid. This position was suitably reflected in the UN General Assembly by the Indian delgate.

Neither the UK nor the US participated in the general debate However, the UK representative made a statement in the exercise of his right of reply to the general debate without specifically referring to the Indian statement.

As in previous years, the General Assembly adopted a number of resolutions on the question of Namibia reiterating, *inter alia*, the call for immediate implementation of the UN plan for Namibian independence. The General Assembly, also condemned the policy of constructive engagement with South Africa.

Missing of crude uranium

3195. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI P. N. SUKUL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantum of crude

uranium missing in 1984-85 from various places; and

(b) whether any enquiry in this regard was instituted at the Mineral Development Corporation, Lalitpur?

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT-ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) No report has been received regarding any missing crude uranium from Uranium Corporation of India Ltd., Joduguda.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

T.V. sets in use in India

3196. SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA:

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of T.V. sets in use in India;

(b) how many of them are black and white and how many are in colour; and

(c) the percentage of population estimated to be covered by these T.V. sets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENTS, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) It is estimated that there are approximately 60 lakh nos. of TV sets in use in the country.

(b) Of these, 49 lakhs are Black & White and 11 lakhs are Colour sets (estimated).

(c) Assuming an average figure of 10 viewers per TV sets, it is estimated that 600 lakhs people are viewing TVs in the country today.

Preservation of forests

3197. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:

SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for the regularisation of land in the names of individuals in hill districts of Uttar Pradesh certain procedure has been devised;

(b) whether it is also a fact in such regularisation consent of the Central Government is required to be obtained; and

(c) whether Government ensure that in regularisation of such land the point for preservation of forest is kept in view and ordinarily no regularisation is allowed so that forest land is not utilized for cultivation purposes and for house sites?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) Diversion of forest land for any non forest purpose needs prior approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act,